

He told me he intended to write to you himself and his first intention was to send quite an informal letter. He also wanted to send you some quite unofficial memento, and asked me what I thought you would like as a personal sign of good will—not as a formal presentation. I thought of something I had seen in his collection which was of great historical value—but not at all the sort of thing a King of England might be expected to give to an American President, because it was the picture of a man who had led a successful rebellion against the English crown. But that was the reason he jumped at the idea at once, because, as he said, you were a man who could understand why he like you (and you like himself) should join in admiration of a great Englishman.

I am quite sure that if you had seen him you would have understood some things which seem rather difficult to understand—that is why he did as a fact exert a great influence, and how very thoroughly and sincerely he desired certain things and did do a great deal to promote their accomplishment. I am very sorry you didn't see him but I dare say you won't forget what I tell you now—quite privately and for yourself.

Yours ever,

CECIL SPRING-BICE.

In the autumn of 1905 the Cruiser Squadron of the British Atlantic Fleet, on the cruise mentioned in King Edward's letter of February 20, 1905, visited New York and other American ports under command of Prince Louis of Battenberg as Bear-Admiral. Writing to his

son Kermit,
November 6, 1905, Boosevelt described this
interesting
scene in the White House ("Theodore
Eoosevelt's Letters
to His Children," page 144. Charles Scribner 's
Sons, 1919):

"Prince Louis of Battenberg has been here
and I have
been very much pleased with him. He is a
really good ad-
miral, and in addition he is a well-read and
cultivated man
and it was charming to talk with him. We had
him and his
nephew, Prince Alexander, a midshipman, to
lunch alone